# Christ: His person and His uniqueness

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
Christ and Sonship
Lesson for December 6, 1981
Bible Study Passages: Mark 1:1, 4-11, 9:2-8

**Introduction**

With the arrival of the Advent season it is only proper that we begin a three-month study of the person and uniqueness of Christ. Such a study will hopefully deepen our sense of faith and expand our appreciation of the significance of Christ for life.

Somehow the Advent and Christmas season invite us to look afresh at the person of Christ. In a few weeks we will celebrate the nativity and the birth of God's only Son, Jesus.

Jesus was born of an earthly mother but of a heavenly Father. Jesus shares a unique relation to the Father as his eternal Son, a relationship we as believers do not share. We become sons and daughters of God through our personal faith in the Son.

The Christian church has always had as its foundation the affirmation of Christ as the Son of God. He was and is seen as the expressed image of God in the flesh. Christ is God incarnated. God opened his heart and shared the most personal aspect of himself-his Son.

**The Beginning Gospel [Mark 1:1]**

Mark opens his narrative with an announcement of "good news." The author traces the roots of the Gospel with a report on the ministry and preaching of John the Baptizer. Mark identifies John as a forerunner or spokesman who announced the coming of the Messiah who would take away the sin of the world.

Mark was careful to identify the link between earth and heaven, that is, between the Son and the Father. He carefully records the baptism of Jesus and God's divine approval of his Son. (Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Jesus occupied a place of supreme significance in relationship to the Father.

**the Transfiguration [Mark 9:2-8]**

The transfiguration is one of the most dramatic events in the New Testament. Mark recorded this event because it held special significance for the disciples. It was a magnificent moment in the midst of dull hours. The event happened on the heels of Jesus' announcement of his coming suffering and death.

The transfiguration event was God's affirmation of Jesus and his work. It was also an affirmation of faith for the disciples, to aid them in understanding the meaning of Christ's suffering. They were about to lose their leader; they needed reassurance. In the transfiguration the disciples both saw and heard the affirmation of him who brings hope and light into an otherwise world of despair and darkness.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP)
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## The Bible and Daily Living

# Business meeting set at Canaan Baptist

A church business meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m. The Ladies' Club is asked to meet at 7 p.m. immediately before the business meeting.

Regular worship service will be held on the second Sunday of December, 13, at 11:30 a.m. The Rev. C. L. Elliott will be in charge. Music will be provided by the United Choir. Communion will be served.

The annual Christmas program will be held the second Sunday of the month, starting at 7 p.m. Mrs. Frances Chambers will be in charge of the program. Come and enjoy these services with us.


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*Times-Virginian*
# Church News

## The Pastor Speaks

By PETER R. HALE

Whose birthday is it anyway? Last Sunday marked the beginning of the Advent season, a time when christians the world over begin preparations to celebrate the coming of the Christ, at Christmas. That comes as no surprise to us. The decorations, songs, ads and other cultural phenomenon associated with Christmas have been with us since Halloween. And now that Thanksgiving is over, the barrage is in full swing.

It reminds one of the passage in the book of Amos, where the prophet speaks about people who could hardly wait until the religious festival, on Sabbath, was over so they could get back to business. And he did not say it kindly.

We need also to be reminded, whose birthday is it anyway? We need to remember in the midst of the noise, the clamor, the inducements to buy, buy, buy, that there once was a young traveling couple who could not find shelter is any hotel or inn, and had to settle for a stable. And the infant born in that stable has always been subject to overcrowding. Only we do it with busyness, hurry, worry, rapid movement, family and any other thing that intrudes on our relationship to God. No room in the Inn, and none in the life of people today. It is good that we can prepare for Christmas. We need to make room. Now. Whose birthday is it, anyway?

Peter R. Hale is pastor of Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church and Walker's Presbyterian Church.

## At Centenary Methodist Christmas music set

Portions of the music will be conducted by Jimmy Adams, a member of the Charlotte County Public School System's music staff.

The Chorale is under the direction of Prof. M. Tucker Keiser, and accompaniments will be provided by Dr. Amos Lee Laine, a membber of the Hampden-Sydney College faculty.

The Red Oak Baptist Church congregation will hold a reception to welcome their pastor and his family, the Rev. James Vaught, to their new church and community.

The reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall of Red Oak Baptist Church on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## Red Oak plans reception

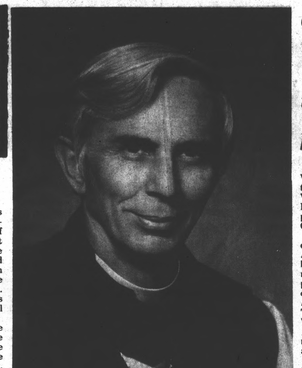
The Southside Chorale will present a program of Christmas music at Centenary Methodist Church, Madisonville, Friday, December 4 at 8:00 p.m.

The Chorale, now celebrating its tenth anniversary and sponsored by the John H. Daniel Campus of Southside Virginia Community College, has selected two small-scale Baroque masterpieces as the central feature of the concert.

They are "For us a Child is born", a Christmas cantata by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), and "Magnificat", by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707), the latter sung by a quintet of soloists.

Other seasonal selections include compositions or arrangements by Randall Thompson, Sir Malcolm Sargent, Norman Luboff, and Peter Warlock.

Soloists, all members of the Chorale, will be Karen Gibson, soprano, Nell O'Brien and Mary Alice Peake, mezzo-sopranos, Margy Watkins, contralto, Thomas Boswell and Alex Haskins, tenors, Jimmy Adams, baritone, and Tucker, Keiser, bass.



The Rt. Rev. C. Charles Vache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# *Charles Vache to visit here*

The Rt. Rev. C. Charles Vache, D.D., seventh bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia, will celebrate the Holy Eucharist, Baptize, and preach at St. Anne's Episcopal Church this Sunday.

Bishop Vache was born and educated in North Carolina. After graduation from Sewbury-Western Theological Seminary and ordination to the priesthood he served as rector of St. Michael's Church in Bon Air, Va., and as rector of Trinity Church in Portsmouth, Va.

He has served the diocese on many committees, commissions and departments.

Since May 1976 he has served the diocese as Bishop, our chief pastor.

# Pamplin Church bazaar slated

The Pamplin United Methodist Church will have their annual Bazaar on December 5 starting at 10 o'clock. This will be held in the Masonic building.

There will be homemade stew, rolls, cakes, pies, barbeque, etc. Lots of homemade crafts plus a white elephant table.

Come out, enjoy the fellowship with your friends.


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# Webb attends SS meeting for co-op stock holders

Archer Webb of Appomattox represented Southern States Cooperative's members at the association's 58th Annual Stockholders' meeting held in Richmond, Va., November 18 and 19.

Also attending the session was Ronald Coleman representing Coleman and Sons local Southern States retail outlet.

They heard Executive Vice President and General Manager, Gen A. James report that dollar volume for the fiscal year ended last June 30, reached a record $713.9 million. This was an increase of about 14 percent wver the previous year's total of $625.9 million.

James also told the business session at the Mosque Auditorium "that savings from operations, after income tax and equity earnings, came to $20.1 million, down $4.1 million from last year.

James shared the reporting with Jack A. McHugh, group vice president, wholesale services; Harris "K. Swann, vice president, retail services; Paul E. Mullinix, group vice president, operations services; and Beverly W. Armstrong, vice president, finance.

McHugh, in his report, stated that petroleum volume reached $221.7 million, a record figure, while gallonage decreased by 8 per cent.

Fertilizer volume was up from 668,496 tons, the previous year to 724,865 tons. Sales totaled $108.2 million compared to $89.3 million the year before.

Seed volume increased 30 per cent from $19.6 million last year to $25.4 million.

Total Farm Supply volume was $103.3 million, up from $94.0 million the year before, an increase of 10 per cent.

Feed tonnage was up slightly from 543,000 tons last year to 544,000 tons. Sales amounted to $112.6 million.

Swann told the session that volume through the co-op's 88 owned branches totaled $193.5 million, up 13 per cent over last year. Net savings were down from $4.4 million to $3.5 million, a 25 per cent dip from last year.

The 115 managed member cooperatives had a sales increase of 15.6 per cent ,to $258.5 million. Their net savings were up 26 per cent to $7.6 million as compared to $6.1 million last year.

Private dealers and independent local farm supply cooperatives had wholesale purchases of $176 million, up 11 per cent from last year's figure of $158.8 million.

Mullinix, reported that the co-op's grain marketing operation handled 23,152,000 bushels last year, down about 5 per cent. Volume was just over $107 million, up $13.1 million from the year before.

"Severe disruptions in many traditional trading patterns in parts of our territory this past year resulted in larger inventories of higher priced grain being carried for a longer period of time. Combined with higher rates of interest, this eroded net savings to $200,000 before taxes, down $1.2 million from last year. As a result, we could not pay a patronage refund on grain for the first time in 8 years," Mullinix reported.

Armstrong told the session that "a patronage refund totaling almost $9.3 million is being paid on purchases through the four purchasing divisions and retail branch locations. Like last year, the refund represents 1½ per cent of purchases and is being paid 40 per cent in cash and 60 per cent in patronage refund allocations.

"The twin bugaboos of inflation and high interest rates are still not under control and many farmers are feeling the financial bind resulting from high cost for what they buy and less than adequate prices for what they sell. We hope this situation will improve in the months ahead," he said.

*Times-Virginian*
# Business News

# Eggleston in N.C. seminar

Steven Mark Eggleston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Eggleston, Appomattox, a clinical pharmacist at Potomac Hospital in Woodbridge, Va., participated in the two-day combined 15th Annual Carolina Hospital Pharmacy Seminar, and 8th Annual Carolina Clinical Pharmacy Seminar held at the Hilton Inn in Raleigh, North Carolina on October 29 and 30.

This continuing education program was co-sponsored by the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Pharmacy and the North Carolina Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

Over 300 hospital and clinical pharmacists were in attendance to hear speakers from throughout the United States provide a review on drug usage considerations and drug therapy update.

# R. V. Southworth resigns; new SEC head sought

The Southside Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors last week accepted the resignation of R. V. Southworth as General Manager, J. Woodrow Martin, the President of the Board of Directors, made the announcement.

Mr. Southworth was named Acting Manager on the date of Mr. Hooper's retirement, and six months later, in the spring of 1980, he was made General Manager of the SEC rural electric system.

In his letter of resignation, Mr. Southworth said, "I feel that we differ in terms of philosophy of the rural program and in interpretation of REA regulations and policies. These differences, while real, do not reflect any ill feeling towards any of the members of the Board or employees of the Cooperative."

Meanwhile, Mr. Martin will head a search committee to screen applicants to fill the vacancy. Mr. Rennie W. Bridgman, Mr. Calvin P. Carter and Mr. G. Foster Reynolds, also members of the Board of Directors, will serve on the search committee with Mr. Martin.

Mr. Martin indicated it might take six months to select a new General Manager, but he said, "this will create no problem since the normal operation of the system can continue during this period under the direction of the present staff."

Mr. Martin also pointed out that three month ago the Board approved the employment of the firm of Smith and Associates Management Consultants of Springfield, Virginia, to make a Management Audit of the operations of the Cooperative. Mr. Martin said, "the Board of Directors believes that the business is in excellent shape, but wanted assurance that this is true and that under the Board's leadership, the business is moving in the right direction." He said that, "certain problems exist which the Board believes require a complete, unbiased, independent review and recommended solutions."

"This type of management audit," Mr. Martin said, "is a process which is routine and used by many business and by many rural electric systems to establish the quality and effectiveness of the organization's general operations. During the management study of this system, interviews are made with the individual members of the Board of Directors, the General Manager of the system, the executive staff, and the department heads, along with a survey of the minutes of all Board meetings and committee reports," Mr. Martin added.

"Based on the findings in the Management Audit," Mr. Martin concluded, "the Board and the management of the Cooperative will benefit and be able to continue the 44 years of successful operations under the present problems of inflation, high interest rates and the ever increasing cost of wholesale power."

**KAY 'S FLOWER CREATIONS, located at Concord, will hold Grand Opening and Christmas Open House on Saturday, December 5 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Sunday, December 6 from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Owned and operated by Mrs. Kay Thomas Bondurant, Kay's Flower Creations offers the finest in flowers for weddings, funerals, parties, hospital arrangements and flowers for that 'special occasion.' From Concord on Route 460 take Route 608 one half mile to Route 609. Take a left on 609 and go three miles to Route 611. Take a right on 611 and go three miles to driveway on right. Just follow the signs. Door prizes will be given.**

# 'Savings' to be discussed

"Saving Money on Groceries and on the Electricity Bill," a special workshop for Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) homeowners, will be held Wednesday, December 9 at 7 p.m. at the Bank of Buckingham conference room in Dillwyn and again on Thursday, December 10 at 9:30 a.m. at the Central Virginia Community Health Center conference room in New Canton.

The workshops are part of the services of the Buckingham Housing Development Corporation's counseling program for FmHA homeowners.

Mrs. Virginia Bailey, Extension agent for the Buckingham County Extension Service, will be the guest speaker at both workshops. The workshop is being offered twice so homeowners can attend the one which best suits their schedules and locations.

For more information, call the Buckingham Housing Development Corporation counseling program at 983-2601.

TWYMAN NASH, a member of the Appomattox Young Farmers, was awarded second place in the silage growing contest sponsored by Dekalb Seed Company. Twyman received the award at the area Young Farmer Banquet held at Appomattox County High School. Twyman's corn produced over 22 tons of silage per acre.


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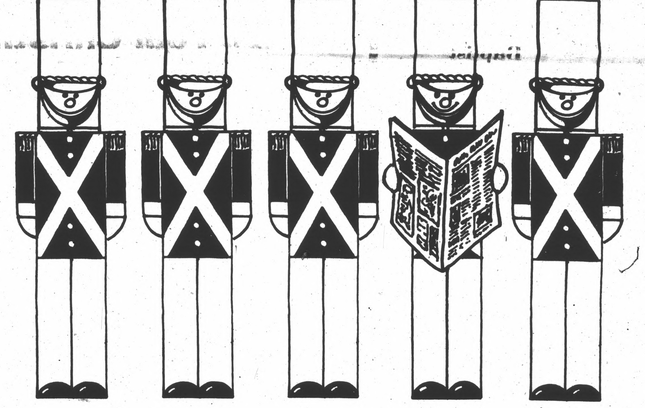

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